

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A thermoplastic molding composition comprising
 - a) from 20 to 99% by weight of a thermoplastic polymer other than a polyoxymethylene homo- or copolymer,
 - b) from 0.1 to 80% by weight of an additive selected from the group consisting of fillers, reinforcing materials, impact modifiers, and their mixtures, and
 - c) from 0.00001 to 1.0% by weight of a catalyst which catalyzes the formation of covalent bonds between the thermoplastic polymer and the surface of the additive.

2. (Currently amended) A long-fiber-reinforced thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1 comprising
 - d) ~~from a)~~ **from** 20 to 90% by weight of a thermoplastic polymer other than a polyoxymethylene homo- or copolymer;
 - e) ~~from b)~~ **from** 10 to 80% by weight of a reinforcing fiber,
 - f) ~~from c)~~ **from** 0.00001 to 0.5% by weight of at least one catalyst which catalyzes a chemical reaction between the thermoplastic matrix polymer and the surface of the reinforcing fiber.

3. (Original) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amount of component a) is from 20 to 99% by weight, that of component b) is from 0.1 to 80% by weight, and that of component c) is from 0.00001 to 0.5% by weight.

4. (Original) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein use is made of a catalyst or a mixture of catalysts which catalyzes transesterification, transamidation, or transurethanization reactions, or catalyzes the formation of ester groups, amide groups, and urethane groups.
5. (Currently amended) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst is a Lewis acid ~~and is preferably not a Bronsted acid.~~
6. (Original) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst is selected from the group consisting of phosphonium salt, phosphanes, ammonium salts, sulfonium salts, titanates, titanyl compounds, zirconates, and their mixtures.
7. (Original) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein mineral fillers, reinforcing fibers, impact modifiers, or their mixtures are used as additive.
8. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyolefin, ~~in particular polypropylene, polyethylene, or~~ modified polyolefin; polyacrylate, polymethacrylate, polymers obtainable via polymerization of esters and/or amides of acrylic or methacrylic acid, and also their copolymers, polyamide, polyester,

polycarbonate, polyether, polythioether, polyphenylene oxide, polyarylene sulfides, ~~or~~ their and their mixtures.

9. (Currently amended) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst is selected from the group consisting of ethyltriphenylphosphonium bromide, tetraphenylphosphonium bromide, tetrabutylphosphonium bromide, stearyl-tributylphosphonium bromide, triphenylphosphane, n-butyl titanate, ~~or their~~ and their mixtures.
10. (Original) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the long-fiber-reinforced thermoplastic molding composition is a glass fiber bundle which has been sheathed by one or more layers of the thermoplastic matrix polymer, so that the fibers have been impregnated with the thermoplastic matrix polymer.
11. (Original) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein the glass fiber bundle has been wetted by the thermoplastic polymer or by a blend of thermoplastic polymers, and the impregnated glass fiber bundle has been sheathed by another component, and the impregnated glass fiber bundle and the other component have been bonded to one another at the surface.
12. (Original) A molded article obtainable via shaping of a thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1.

13. (New) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst is not a Brønsted acid.
14. (New) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyethylene, or modified polyolefin; polyacrylate, polymethacrylate, polymers obtainable via polymerization of esters and/or amides of acrylic or methacrylic acid, and also their copolymers, polyamide, polyester, polycarbonate, polyether, polythioether, polyphenylene oxide, polyarylene sulfides, and their mixtures and the catalyst is phosphane, sulfonium salt, titanyl compound or mixtures thereof and/or the catalyst is phosphonium salt or ammonium salts or mixtures thereof if the catalyst the catalyst is present at most 0.01%.
15. (New) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein the catalyst is from 0.00001 to 0.01% by weight and is phosphane, sulfonium salt, titanyl compound, phosphonium salt or ammonium salts or there mixtures.
16. (New) The polyacetal molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst is a titanyl compounds of the structure $[Ml^{p+}]_s[TiO]^{2+}[A^{-}]_t$, wherein
p is 1 or 2,
s is 0, 1 or 2,
Ml is a mono- or divalent metal,
A is an r-valent anion,
r and t, independently of one another, are 1 or 2, and
 $s \cdot p + 2$ is equal to $r \cdot t$.

17. (New) The polyacetal molding composition as claimed in claim 16, wherein

M1 is an alkali metal,

A is an acetic acid or oxalic acid,

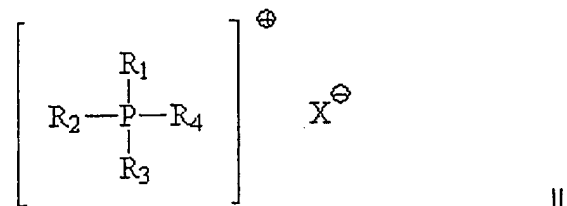
p=1,

s=0 or 2,

r=1 or 2, and

t=2.

18. (New) The polyacetal molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst is phosphonium salts which are compounds of the formula II



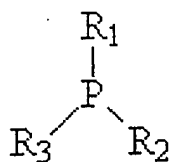
where R₁, R₂, R₃, and R₄ are identical or different, and are monovalent organic radicals,

X is be a halogen atom, and/or an -OR or -R group, where R is alkyl or aryl.

19. (New) The polyacetal molding composition as claimed in claim 18, wherein

R₁ to R₄ are identical or different and have from 2 to 10 carbon atoms and at least one of the radicals R₁ to R₄, is an aryl radical.

20. (New) The polyacetal molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst is phosphanes of the formula IIa



IIa

where the radicals R_1 to R_3 are identical or different, and are monovalent organic radicals.